



Until EnergyWorks brightened up the day, employees of the Kansas City government faced a gloomy and depressing work environment. "It was dark, dismal, dingy, and dirty," explained city employee Iris Stiller. "When someone walked into the (lobby) area, it was just like walking into a cave," she added.

Things began looking up, however, once EnergyWorks studied the City Hall lighting problems and helped city architects develop a plan for energy-efficient lighting. After the lighting upgrades were made, city employees agreed that City Hall had lost its depressing "Gotham City" look.

GOTHIC NO MORE

EnergyWorks has developed quite a specialty in brightening up gothic buildings. It recently retrofitted the turn-of-the-century building that serves as the headquarters of Heart of America United Way. Now, the local United Way has two things to celebrate—its 80th anniversary and its "new and improved" headquarters.

HITTING THE BULLSEYE

The Kansas City-based Metropolitan Energy Center (MEC) organized EnergyWorks as a Rebuild America partnership in 1995.

MEC decided that the new partnership would deliver technical and financial assistance and information on energy efficiency to government, schools, and local non-profits. The goal: to help these organizations cut their energy use by 25 percent by the year 2000.

EnergyWorks Lights Up Kansas City

These buildings were targeted, said EnergyWorks Director Voris Williams, because many of these organizations are forced by economics into older structures that they cannot afford to repair. In addition, many public and non-profit groups do not realize that by properly managing their energy resources, they will have more funds available to fulfill their organizational missions, Williams explained. He predicted that the energy conservation efforts of EnergyWorks will create a ripple of

benefits throughout the community, such as more food for destitute families and increased screening for infectious diseases.



DOLLAR WISE

EnergyWorks has successfully leveraged its funds, too.

Each dollar that the partnership received in Federal funding has resulted in energy efficiency investments of \$50. To date, nearly \$20 million of energy efficiency projects have been completed in over four million square feet of building space owned or leased (long-term) by non-profits, public agencies, and schools, such as community centers, city halls, and social service agency buildings.

TAKING IT TO THE STREETS

EnergyWorks used its financial acumen to help the Kansas City municipal government secure a

Partnership Facts:

TARGETED BUILDINGS:

Government buildings, schools, and buildings owned or leased by non-profit organizations

SQUARE FOOTAGE:

Analyzed: 7.4 million square feet;

RETROFITTED:

4.3 million square feet.

ANTICIPATED COST SAVINGS:

\$3.2 million; amount retrofitted: \$1.8 million.

NEW & NOTABLE:

Local government five-part energy management training program; Leveraged funding by 1:50 ratio, Focus on non-profits

COMPLETION DATE:

Ongoing

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CITY OF KANSAS CITY REBUILD AMERICA PARTNERSHIP:

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\$1,000,000 low-interest loan from the state of Missouri to upgrade approximately 6,000 inefficient streetlights in Kansas City.

The EnergyWorks lighting project is part of a \$110,000,000 program to install 33,000 new streetlights and to purchase existing city streetlights from Kansas City Power and Light. Once ownership has passed to the City, more than a third of its existing streetlights will be upgraded. The planned retrofits will save the City nearly \$300,000 annually.

OTHER EFFORTS

EnergyWorks has worked with officials from three community college campuses, to help them energy-retrofit a total of 26 buildings. When these upgrades are completed, one college estimates that its \$1,400,000 annual energy bill will be cut by nearly a third.

EnergyWorks also co-sponsored a five-part energy-management training program for local government personnel. Working with the Council of Governments, EnergyWorks produced a curriculum and delivered training in areas ranging from energy management plans to life-cycle costing and from building energy efficiency to energy tariff analysis.

BOOSTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY

MEC's Williams knows that helping local non-profits, public agencies and schools also helps to boost the local economy, both directly and indirectly.

"By supporting sound building energy management practices, local governments and non-profit organizations and the communities they serve all stand to profit from lower energy costs and more livable buildings," he noted.

EnergyWorks has shown that energy use has important and positive effects on the community, from the buildings themselves to the people they house.



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